

Dear WPC members.

Please see Bits-n-Pieces e-news for 27th December below and attached as a PDF.

Remember – as per programme – no WPC Tonight.

A message from WPC President

David Richardson



Christmas 2019, I hope you have had a good Christmas.

I have enjoyed my first few months as President of WPC.

We have had some very good nights with excellent photographs and speakers. My personal favourite was the "Toon" African presentation which I thought was superb. We have also performed extremely well in external competitions and my congratulations go to those members who did so well! External exhibitions have been popular, and many members have enjoyed our photographic trips. Thank you to all the organisers who make this possible.

It was a sad time for us all to see Alan Fowler's illness and death and my sincere condolences go to all his family who supported WPC so enthusiastically. He will be greatly missed by so many.

Unfortunately, WPC has had financial difficulties. This is due to rises in our expenses e.g. room hire, speakers' charges etc and a reduction in membership. In view of this the committee has spent many hours considering very seriously, ways of reducing costs and increasing income. We have considered every one of the 32 suggestions made to us. Ways of reducing costs have included moving our meetings to cheaper venues, having less costly "outside" speakers, reducing the number of meetings per year and not printing the programme or engraving the trophies.

Suggested ways of increasing income included increasing membership (Facebook, web, advertising and exhibitions), open competitions for public entry and running courses to help with photographic technique. We have already instituted small increases in charges for magazines, teas/coffees etc. Changing the fee structure has been seriously discussed e.g. having a weekly charge, holding raffles.

I hope I explained successfully some of the issues at the recent Special General Meeting where we, unfortunately, agreed to make an additional charge of £5 for this 2018-19 season. We also agreed to stop the additional mandatory payments (above our statutory fees) to Whickham Community Centre.

The committee will be considering what additional measures we need to make and will bring them to the membership over the next few months.

The recent Auction Night made £140 which is an excellent help to the club's finances. I thank the members who took part making it an enjoyable evening with banter and laughs whilst bidding for excellent tripods, bottles of wine, books, DVDs, "smellies" and assorted photographic equipment.

I wish to thank everyone who helps with the running of WPC in any way, as without them we would not have a club. Please consider how you could help next year. In particular my thanks go to the committee who give up their time and energy on behalf of everyone in WPC.

I wish all members and your families best wishes for 2020. I hope we can all enjoy and improve our photography in the coming year.

David Richardson, President WPC, Christmas 2019

“What’s next on at WPC”

Friday 03rd January

WPC’s David and Carol Stout with

“Our Oriental Experience”

David EFIAP, DPAGB, PPSA and wife Carol DPAGB shall take us on a PDI journey of their Far East travels in this, the first WPC Evening of the new decade.

Come along and see in the New Year in a Far Eastern Flavour.

Auction Night Collection

Ian Morland meanwhile advises an honest male view regards clearing useful stuff from a man cave.



32 Suggestions

SGM had interaction from members with potential suggestions on how we can help and maintain WPC thrive.

David Richardson advised thought process and methodology regarding ideas' some more practical than others had been categorised as green, amber, red with:

Green: Yes implement – or maintain

Amber: Keep on hold – for future consideration

Red: Hold – do not change – do not implement

Table of Potential Methods for Revenue Reduction or Revenue Creation referenced – confirming agreement with colour code – in no particular order:

Green: Yes / Implement / maintain These:

- Exhibitions etc: Decision – Have “begging Bowl better advertised.
- Programme: Reduce length of Programme - Plan in for 2020 Season.
- Programme – Big Names – Confirm costs – advertise – Implement from 2020.
- Use of smaller Hall? No - not regularly - Retain Large Hall for club nights.
- Use alternative venue for Committee meetings – implemented.
- Increase membership fee's? £5:00 Levy to be requested at SGM.
- Take (regrettable) decision of removing donation to SGM with encouragement to implement cessation – carried – WPC will review further donations.
- Implement (Fee charging) Photography Training for Members + Public Create Sub-Committee (Paul Hattam as lead) Volunteers DLH: AW: JD. May include i.e. FB competitions etc.
- Recruitment via FB – Flicker etc: Support initiative.
- Recruitment: Remove constituency need for 16-18yr olds to be accompanied by adult. Topic for next AGM – treat Young People (16-18) as Students.
- Facebook Competition Initiatives (inc Chase Park) support initiative FB / Training under PH as lead.
- Sundries: Increase Tea/Magazine charge to 50p: Actioned.
- Members Expences (mileage) review and reduce: Yes ongoing.
- Postpone Annual Exhibition: Cancel all day 09th10th May booking. Rearrange for start of new season. NB: Hold Friday booking for other use, investigate if date can be used for Social Occasion.
- Review Insurance. PLI mandatory. All-Risks subjective on value received. Review next premium on receipt ensuring we are not making error – with view to closing all-risks insurance.

Amber: Not now / Do not dismiss:

- Additional exhibitions: Maintain where practicable at minimal (no) cost.
- Donation to WPC: Request confidential members (via envelope) donation.
- Obtain external funding for future equipment purchase.

Red: No Change i.e. Do not implement:

- Do nothing – allow programme to run its course.
- Extend Exhibition – include Sunday.
- Sell tea's etc. at Annual Exhibition.
- Stop engraving trophy's with recipient's name.
- Stock and sell photographic sundries (mounts, tape, USB's)
- Implement large scale raffles with WCC.
- Change from Friday evenings for WPC nights.
- Meet fortnightly – Meet throughout season.
- Move WPC to alternative venue / Move exhibition to alternative venue.
- Introduce weekly (£1:00) attendance charge.
- Run weekly raffle.
- Obtain external sponsorship.
- Turn WPC into registered charity.
- Create/sell Portfolio book.
- Take percentage profit on members print and pdi sales. (Prints OK stay as-is).

Changes to Programme including Annual Exhibition

As advised by Peter Dixon – there will be some minor changes to programme regards which DVD may be shown from the various providers.

However as per the 32 suggestions review the MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE has been to rearrange our [Members Annual Exhibition](#) from the end of this season.

Main reason is recruitment drive, we always have visitors who enquire about the club but who are put off by WPC re-start planned for 4 months away.

Therefore, the Members Annual Exhibition advised in 2019/20 programme as 8th/9th May will now be held at the beginning of the new 2020/21 season on 25th/26th September.

This does not mean we should not have a celebratory end of the season for this year. So a Social Evening with prize giving of awards is planned for Friday May the 8th instead of exhibition preview (venue TBA – watch this space).

Summer Programme

Starting on May the 8th with our social evening we have a full summer programme most Fridays and some Saturdays.

There will be day trips, evening trips. Collated by a number of members there are one or two suggestions of places to visit below if you would like to add a suggestion please add to the list by emailing me with your suggestions, dixonp150@gmail.com suggestions where members would be pleased to lead a photographic outing always welcome.

Shildon Railway Museum	Chillingham	St Abbs Head	<u>May</u>
Woodhorn Mining Museum	Chipchase	Gibside	8 Social Evening at TBA
Wallington Hall	Raby	Brimham Rocks	15 Evening Trip -
Cresswell Hall	Auckland	Sudley Royal and Fountains Abbey	22 Meeting in Community Centre Assignments/Critique/Training
Brinkburn Priory	Bothal	Sports Events	30 (Sat) Day trip
Derwent Reservoir	Craster	Beamish Museum	<u>June</u>
Hownsgill Viaduct	Beadnell	Edinburgh Fringe	5 Day trip
Waterfalls	Farne Islands	Along Tyne River	12 Evening Trip -
Ribblehead Viaduct	Druridge Bay	Walk Around Wickham	19 Meeting in Community Centre Assignments/Critique/Training
Blawearie	Cresswell	Derwent Walk	27 (Sat) Day trip
Castles	Surprise View	Red Kites	<u>July</u>
Hadrians Wall	Ashness Bridge	Jesmond dene	3 Day trip
Northumberland Coast	Little Langdale	Ouseburn	10 Evening Trip -
Lake District	Filey	Sycamore Gap	17 Meeting in Community Centre Assignments/Critique/Training
Kielder Water	Redcar	Eyemouth	25 (Sat) Day trip
Angel of the North	Teeside	Steam Rallies	31 Day trip
White Scar Caves	Hadrians Wall	Classic Car Shows	<u>AUGUST</u>
Ingleton Waterfalls	Borders		7 Day trip
Limestone Country	The Shambles		14 Evening Trip -
Knarborough	York Minster		21 Meeting in Community Centre Assignments/Critique/Training
Flamborough Head	Railway Museum		29 (Sat) Day trip
Paddy's Hole	Preserved Industrial heritage		
Butterfly World	Peace hall		
Hexham Abbey			
Cawfield Quarry			

London Salon

Members who attended the excellent DVD London Salon Presentation on the 20th December enjoyed work from GB's leading photographers including (a first for WPC) work from a WPC Member. See <http://www.londonsalon.org/>

The London Salon of Photography is a group of award-winning creative photographers, and membership is by invitation only. Currently there are 45 members. Each year, the Salon hosts an exhibition (this year's is the 108th edition) to which photographers of all levels are invited to enter. Each entrant may submit up to four monochrome and four colour prints, of which a maximum of two from each section may be selected. On the judging day, Salon members select photographs to be exhibited and award up to ten special London Salon Medals to non-Salon members. Every entrant receives an A4 colour catalogue displaying all of the accepted prints and also has the opportunity to purchase a photo book. This year, 991 prints were entered with 129 accepted, of which 90 of these were from non-members and eight Salon gold medals awarded.



Roy Elwood FRPS EFIAP MPAGB England

Figure with Butterfly Clip

Competitions – Reminder - Hand-In Deadlines:

Joseph still wants your entries!

NCPF Club Championships 2020 Prints and PDI's - **ASAP** Please

NCPF Club Championships is a great opportunity to see your work marked "live" by a trio of top-class judges in front of a large audience at Clara Vale where images from NCPF clubs are shown as Print and PDI during an all-day event on Sunday 09th February.

Prints will be collected nearer the date for hand in on the day. But PDI's and PDI's of the prints are requested ASAP (to be passed to NCPF to arrange presentation and showing). Plus, entries to the **PDI** competition, please send all to duffyjoseph9@gmail.com. Again, we encourage entering with your best work for our club. How many – put your best 3 or so Prints and PDI's, the best for competition will be chosen by Joseph and the team.

South Tyne PDI Competition: 10th January 2020

WPC jointly won last year's Trophy along with Hexham. This seasons competition will be held in our Whickham Community Centre on 28th February Judged by Peter Yearnshire of Blyth PS final hand-in date to Joseph Duffy is 10th Jan – we are seeking your best PDI's to duffyjoseph9@gmail.com

That's all for now.

See you Friday 03rd January for David and Carol's PDI Oriental Experience.

All the Best

Alan

Alan Wilson

Secretary, Whickham Photographic Club

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WPC wish all “A Happy,
Healthy and
Photographically
Prosperous New Year”

